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What is claimed is:

1. A light control element having on at least one side a prismatic surface, wherein said prismatic surface has a great number of repeated projections having slopes inclined to the general plane of said light control element, at least part of said slopes defining a light diffusible surface.

- A light control element according to claim 1,
 wherein said great number of projections extend in one
 common direction and are repeatedly arranged in a
 direction perpendicular to said one common direction, each
 of said great number of projections having a substantially
 triangular cross section.
 - 3. A light control element according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said light diffusible surface is a rough surface,

25 %. A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

a light guide plate having a varying thickness
20 gradually decreasing away from its incidence end surface;

a primary light source for supplying illumination light to said light guide plate from said incidence end surface, the supplied light being deflected and emitted from an exiting surface of the light guide plate; and

- a light control element disposed along the exiting surface of said light guide plate and having a prismatic surface on at least one side relatively near said light guide plate, said prismatic surface having a great number of repeated projections having slopes inclined to the general plane of said light control element, at least part of said slopes defining a light diffusible surface.
- 5. A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4, wherein said great number of



projections extend in one common direction and are repeatedly arranged in a direction perpendicularly to said one common direction, each of said great number of projections having a substantially triangular cross section.

6. A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4 or 5, wherein said light diffusible surface is a rough surface.

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